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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

App. No. : 10/501,791 Confirmation No. 6914
Applicant : Yoshifumi Kachi, et al.
Filed : July 2, 2004
T.C./A.U. : 1763
Examiner : Ram N. Kackar
Docket No. : 39.026-AG
Customer No. : 29453

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

This constitutes an Information Disclosure Statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. The attached documents listed on the accompanying Form PTO/SB/08 are hereby brought to the Examiner's attention in the patent application identified above.

REMARKS

All of the presently submitted references, i.e., Cite Nos. F1 through F3 as listed on Form PTO/SB/08, are not in English. These references were cited in a communication from the Japanese Patent Office in a counterpart Japanese application.

Concise Explanation of Relevance/Copy of Translation
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)

As a concise explanation of the relevance of the presently submitted Japanese-language references, an English translation of the Japanese Patent Office communication in its entirety is submitted herewith. The JPO communication was in Japanese Pat. App. No. 2002-309388, the foreign patent application on the basis of which priority is claimed in the present application. (A copy of the Japanese Patent Office communication in its entirety follows the English translation.)

Furthermore, English abstracts of Cite Nos. F1 through F3 are available on the Japanese Patent Office website through Patent Abstracts of Japan (PAJ), and a copy of the corresponding abstract is attached to the back of each reference.

STATEMENT AS SPECIFIED IN 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than 3 months prior to the filing of this statement.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider these references, and to indicate so on the accompanying Form PTO/SB/08 and make the document of record in the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: Dec. 28, '05


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ALL REFERENCES CONSIDERED EXCEPT WHERE LINED THROUGH. /SC/

